

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 EB-11

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SCEM-02 TRSE-00 PRS-01

NEA-10 COME-00 INT-08 CIEP-02 RSR-01 /119 W
----- 071724

R 141052 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9144

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ENRG, NI

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF NIGERIAN CRUDE BY " AMOCO"

REF: LONDON 4315

1. WE CONCUR WITH EMBASSY LONDON' S ASSESSMENT THAT AMOCO UNLIKELY ADVANCE ITS EFFORTS PURCHASE FMG CRUDE THROUGH NIGERIAN HIGH COMMISSION LONDON. WE SUGGEST MAYBEN BE ADVISED TO CONVEY HIS INTEREST INITIALLY IN LETTER OR TELEX ADDRESSED TO PHILIO C ASIODU, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF MINES AND POWER, LAGOS. COMMUNICATION WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE REFERRED TO ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES O. LOLOMARI. EVEN IF MAYBEN RECEIVES NO RESPONSE TO HIS INITIAL COMMUNICATION (WHICH IS QUITE LIKELY GIVEN WORK PRESSURES ON MINES AND POWER OFFICIALS), WE THINK INITIAL COMMUNICATION IS IMPORTANT AS EARNEST OF AMOCO INTEREST. MAYBEN COULD FOLLOW UP WITH VISIT TO LAGOS DURING WHICH LOLOMARI WOULD PROBABLY BE PRIMARY CONTACT.

2. YOU MAY ALSO PALL FOLLOWING BACKGROUND INFORMATION TO MAYBEN: FMG AT PRESENT HAS NO CRUDE IMMEDIATELY AT ITS DISPOSAL ALTHOUGH IT HAS RIGHT TO TAKE PARTICIPATION CRUDE FROM TOW SMALL PRODUCERS UPON REACHING SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT WITH THEM. FMG ALSO HAS RIGHT TAKE DELIVERY OF CRUDE IN LIEU OF ROYALTY
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PAYMENTS WITH SUFFICIENT ADVANCE NOTICE, BUT FACT THIS CRUDE IS VALUED AT POSTED PRICE CONTINUES MAKE IT UNATTRACTIVE TO PURCHASERS. FMG WILL ALSO ACQUIRE SOME PARTICIPATION CRUDE FORM THREE MAJOR PRODUCERS UPON COMPLETION PARTICIPATION NEGOTIATIONS NOW IN TRAIN. MINES AND POWER OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN TELLING PARTIES INTERESTED IN PURCHASING FMG CRUDE WHO HAVE BEEN COMING TO LAGOS IN LARGE NUMBERS THAT IF HAS ALREADY COMMITTED CRUDE IT WILL OBTAIN IN NEAR FUTURE. HOWEVER, THEY ALSO STRESS THAT THEY ARE INTERESTED IN LINING UP POTENTIAL PURCHASERS FOR CRUDE WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE IN 1974 AND BEYOND. MAYBEN MAY WISH BE INCLUDED IN THIS GROUP.
REINHARDT

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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